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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 86345
Client Ref. No. 635730US:GMT

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: _____

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

ALFRED ALEXANDER TAYLOR,
ET AL.

Application No. 10/613,568

Filed: July 2, 2003

For: PACKAGE ASSEMBLY AND
MACHINE AND METHOD FOR
MANUFACTURE THEREOF

Customer No. 20350

Confirmation No. 2937

Examiner: Bryon P. Gehman

Technology Center/Art Unit: 3728

AMENDMENT

San Francisco, CA 94111
March 29, 2007

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

As a precautionary measure, applicants request an extension of time, if needed and if not separately attached hereto, and authorize the Commissioner to charge the fee therefor to our deposit account in accordance with our standing authorization for such charges.

In response to the restriction requirement dated March 7, 2007, applicants herewith elect with traverse the further prosecution of claim Group I, that is, of claims 1-7.

Reconsideration and retraction of the restriction requirement between claim Groups I and II are requested. This restriction was based on the observation that the process as claimed can be practiced by hand. However, method claim 8 requires amongst others "providing

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Amendment
Reply to Office Action of March 7, 2007


PATENT

a plurality of sealingly closed bags, the bags being joined by end seal areas". The bags cannot be sealed by hand, and they can also not be joined by end seal areas made by hand.

Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 8 do not fall under MPEP §806.05(e).
Accordingly, applicants request that the restriction between Groups I and II be withdrawn and a substantive examination of claims 1-10.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (415) 273-4730 (direct dial).

Respectfully submitted,


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